

IN THE CLAIMS

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.121(c), Applicants present the following claim amendments. Please amend claims 1 and 38 as indicated below. Please cancel claims 8-26, 28-34, and 36-37 as indicated below.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for exchanging messages between users, comprising:
processing messages from a plurality of user networks having a plurality of network protocols, for storage in a message store;
accessing at least one of the messages in the message store from one of the user networks having any one of the network protocols;
obtaining configuration information about a mailbox for organizing at least one of the messages in the message store;
purging all expired messages of the mailbox; and
when the mailbox has a size that exceeds an allocated limit;
archiving only messages of the mailbox that ~~(a) substantially exceed a predetermined memory allocation for the mailbox and (b) have not been~~ accessed by a subscriber for a predetermined time period, and
compressing only messages of the mailbox that have been accessed by a subscriber within the predetermined time period; and
~~compressing non-purged and non-archived messages of the mailbox.~~
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the messages comprise one or more of the following message formats: voicemail, email, facsimile, SMS, video and a graphical image.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, the step of processing comprising transforming at least one of the messages from one message format to another message format.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising sending a notification of at least one message in the message store to a user connected with one of the user networks.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, the step of sending comprising embedding in the notification information about the at least one message of the notification, wherein a user accessing the notification directly accesses the message of the notification in responding to the notification.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, the step of processing comprising the steps of:
associating one or more of the messages with a subscriber;
determining whether the subscriber has an existing mailbox;
if the subscriber has the existing mailbox, storing the one or more messages in the existing mailbox; and
if the subscriber does not have the existing mailbox, creating a new mailbox and storing the one or more messages in the new mailbox.

7-37. (Canceled)

38. (Currently Amended) A method for automatically managing dynamic mailboxes, comprising:

obtaining configuration information from one or more dynamic mailboxes;

purging all expired messages of the dynamic mailboxes; and

for each dynamic mailbox having a size that exceeds an allocated limit:

archiving only messages of the dynamic ~~mailbox~~ mailboxes that (a) substantially exceed a predetermined memory allocation and (b) have not been accessed by a subscriber for a predetermined time period[[:]], and

compressing only messages of the dynamic mailbox that have been accessed by a subscriber within the predetermined time period.

~~compressing non-purged and non-archived messages of the dynamic mailboxes.~~

39-42. (Canceled)